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RICHARD H. SYLVESTER, -- EDITOR.

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WHY TRADE IS DULL.

With every change of the National Administration, especially where a change of the party in power is involved, it is but natural that the trade of Washington should be more or less affected. Whatever threatens to distract the security of the tenure by which thousands of resident employees of the Government hold their positions, is necessarily felt in business circles.

A large class of buyers immediately begin to retrench expenditures. In many cases collections become slow and difficult; old associations between merchant and customer are broken up and where much money was in circulation before, a material falling off ensues.

Ordinarily these influences are of brief duration, the process of removal and appointment to suit the new regime being soon completed and matters resuming their normal course.

With the accession of the Democratic party to power, after twenty-five years of retirement, the case is different. Here a general political revolution was wrought, the effects of which are necessarily felt through all branches of the civil service, and in a correspondingly greater degree through all our local channels of commerce. But the causes of the resulting depression are essentially the same now as they have been heretofore, with one exception, and will yield in time to the same tranquilizing treatment.

The exception is that the situation is complicated, as it never was before, by the civil service law. It is not the politics of the party in power that produces the existing depression, but the peculiar difficulties that are encountered in adjusting the patronage of the Government to a new order of things.

Yet a Western correspondent, whose letter lies before us, ventures the absurd and superficial idea that "a Democratic administration means dullness of trade in all branches—not dullness for a few months, but quietness and apathy for several years," and that the merchants of Washington have learned at last what they should have found out years ago.

The signs of the times warrant no such opinion. On the contrary every thing points to a revival of industry, in which Washington as well as the rest of the country will participate. It may not be a boom, but it will be a substantial restoration of confidence, based upon abundant crops and the assurance of a steady, conservative administration of affairs.

So far as the prevailing uncertainty among the employees of the Government is concerned and the consequent handing over of their resources, it is due more to civil-service reform than to any other one cause, and had it not been for the civil-service law, which the President is under obligations to enforce, the skies would to-day be clear, the work of official reorganization well nigh completed and the uneasiness of the Departments at an end.

THE Atchison (Kan.) Patriot thus says: "When Jay Gould got off his special train and went to the Union Depot Hotel this morning he was a worse dressed man than the city editor of this paper." This may be surprising to some people, but it is not so to those who know anything about the Kansas newspaper man. There is no profession in the world the members of which are more noted for their *ton* than the Kansas newspaper man, and the city editor is the most gorgeous of all his kind.

AN ESTEEMED CONTEMPORARY speaks of Miss Kathryn Kidder in the greatest play of "Nordeek" now being produced at Alburgh's as the mother of the hero, an honor which belongs to right to Miss Emma Blum. But it must be borne in mind that the criticisms of our esteemed contemporary are entirely "untrammeled."

IT WILL not be strange if the Democrats of New York continue the hunt until they have secured the official scalp of Postmaster Pearson. The Postmaster has announced his determination to support Davenport for Governor. The convention which nominated Davenport denounced Mr. Cleveland as "a sham and a pretender."

IT IS announced that Judge Foraker of Ohio has already laid in a stock of Presidential aspirants. He should be a little careful as he runs great danger of being compelled to dispose of them at an enormous discount.

CHARLES LELAND, who died yesterday at Long Branch, was one of the most successful, as well as one of America's greatest hotel men. He commenced the hotel business in 1843 as a clerk in the Carpenter's Inn, New York city.

DR. LUDVIG VON BOEKER OF Philadelphia, the author of "The Book of the Month," is now in New Orleans in connection with the production there of "The Mikado," by his son, George Ford. His first trip to that city was in 1832, thirty-three years ago, when the elder Booth played his last engagement previous to his death.

JUDGE FOAKER of Ohio is booked for several weeks in New York, and will make his first one at Madison Square Garden Friday evening. The Democratic managers, upon the other hand, have secured the oratorical services of Senator Vest, Governor Abbott, General McMillan, Senator Voorhees, and last, but far from least, of Allen G. Thurman. The battle will soon open all along the lines, and from present indications, with an earnestness and enthusiasm commensurate with the importance of the issue involved.

IT WAS two hundred years ago last Sunday that Louis XIV. of France revoked the edict of Nantes by which the persecuted Huguenots had been granted a little liberty of conscience. To-morrow will be the two hundredth anniversary of the publication of the edict. The day will be celebrated wherever the descendants of the Huguenots are gathered together in any considerable numbers. There are many of them in this country, especially in South Carolina. The revolution caused the Huguenots to flee from France and many of them came

to America. Some of the most distinguished men of the country were descended from those Huguenot refugees. Among them is Secretary Baird, who is expected to attend the celebration in New York to-morrow. The action of Louis XIV., who is styled in the history the "Grand Monarch," was very hard on the Huguenots but proved of material benefit to the American colonies.

THE REPRESENTATIVES of the Roman Church in Great Britain are active this year in politics. Archibald Walsh is doing his best to secure Nationalists members of Parliament from Ireland, and Cardinal Newman has created quite a sensation by coming out in favor of the Conservatives. The Liberal party believes in the disestablishment of the Episcopal Church. For this reason the Cardinal wants all of his friends to help the Conservatives. His public declaration on this point will, it is thought, assist the Irish members to form a combination with the Conservatives, and it has also started the campaign in a most lively manner. This will be a busy week in English politics.

EX-CONGRESSMAN SHERLEY, now president of Amherst College, says that his election cost him just five cents—one cent each for an envelope and sheet of paper and three cents to mail the letter accepting the nomination.

ELDER R. HUBER of Georgia is not only the father of Luisa Huber, the electric girl, but a prophet who predicts that the girl will be a success. She will certainly come to England, and it is even whispered in London that she is not overweight in mind.

MRS. HUGHES BALLET, so long popular in Philadelphia, is at Mrs. Emma Van Schaamberg, is ill at her London residence in Cromwell Road. She is said to be suffering from a severe attack of rheumatic gout.

THE PRINCESS LOUISE of Wales is anything but a bright-looking woman, having a dull and unattractive complexion, and it is even whispered in London that she is not overweight in mind.

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